

REMARKS

The present application contains claims 1-31.

Making reference to the Office Action Summary, it is noted that: the present action is responsive to a communication filed January 18, 2004; the action is non-final and further that a shortened statutory period of one (1) month has been set for the reply.

It is submitted that this amendment is being timely filed.

Making reference to the Disposition of the Claims, it is noted that claims 1-31 are subject to a restriction and/or election requirement.

Making reference to the Detailed Action, it is noted that the Examiner considers the present application to contain claims directed to the following patentable distinct species:

Species I, directed to Figures 5 and 6; and

Species II, directed to Figures 7 and 8.

Responsive to the requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 to elect a single disclose specie, applicant herewith elects Specie I, directed to Figures 5 and 6 and submits that the claims readable thereon include all of the claims 1-31.

It is noted that the Examiner considers claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28 and 31 to be generic to both species.

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It is further noted that upon allowance of a generic claims, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all of the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

In view of the foregoing, early examination and allowance of the claims of this application are earnestly solicited.

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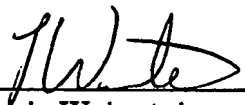
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1 - 31, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Sumio Kawai

By 
Louis Weinstein
Registration No. 20,477

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
United Plaza, Suite 1600
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-6400
Facsimile: (215) 568-6499

LW/arp